

Message Text

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INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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TAGS: OEXC,UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS (CU/ARTS): AMERICAN

PAGS FOR 1976: COUNTRY MUSIC, SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, SOFT

ROCK GROUP

STATE FOR CU/ARTS, CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C;

USIA FOR IEU

REF: (A) STATE 204940 (B) STATE 194486

(C) STATE 210404 (D) STATE 204406

1. GOSKONTSERT ACCEPTS ROY CLARK BUT SUGGESTS THAT HIS INTRODUCTIONS WILL NOT BE UNDERSTANDABLE AND THAT SUCH INTRODUCTIONS BE DONE BY A RUSSIAN M.C. TIME CHANGE REFTEL A PRESENTS NO PROBLEM BUT GOSKONTSERT STRONGLY REQUESTED MINIMUM THREE-WEEK TOUR. GOSKONTSERT REQUESTS LYRICS AND OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW CLARK SHOW AS IT WILL APPEAR HERE IN LAS VEGAS PRIOR TO COMING BUT THIS NOT EXPRESSED AS BLOCK TO NEGOTIATIONS OR SIGNING.

2. GOSKONTSERT PERCEIVES PROBLEMS IN SCHEDULING OF NYPO SEPTEMBER TWO - EIGHTEEN AND IS NOT YET READY TO GIVE DEFINIT ANSWER. THEY ADMIT THAT SEPTEMBER TWO - EIGHTEEN IS THE BEST OF THE TIMES OFFERED AND PROMISED FINAL ANSWER BY SEPTEMBER TWELVE.

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3. GOSKONTSERT OFFICIALS ADMITTED THAT AMERICA EVEN

BETTER
THAN CROSBY,STILLS,NASH AND YOUNG AND
THAT THERE ARE NO ARTISTIC PROBLEMS TO PRESENTATIONS OF
GROUP. GOSKONTSERT CONTINUED THAT FINAL DECISION LIES WITH
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND THAT PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT ARISE ARE:
(A) THIS IS FIRST MAJOR ROCK GROUP TO COME TO SOVIET UNION
AND A NEW POLICY MUST BE SET; (B) THERE IS A FEAR OF CROWD
REACTION TO ROCK MUSIC AND MINCULT MUST BE ASSURED THAT THIS
IS NOT LIKELY. EMBOFF ASSURED GOSKONTSERT THAT GROUP WAS
SERIOUS AND WELL DISCIPLINED, THAT CONCERT DRESS IN SOVIET
UNION WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND STAGE MANNERISMS
ORDERLY. GOSKONTSERT OFFICIAL EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE THAT
THE PRESENTATION BE EDUCATIONAL FOR SOVS ABOUT THIS TYPE
OF MUSIC AND QUOTE MORE ACADEMIC UNQUOTE IN ITS PRESENTATION.
HE REQUESTS ALL THE LYRICS OF THE GROUP'S SONGS WITH THE
INTENTON OF HAVING FULL TRANSLATIONS IN THE PROGRAM NOTES.
HE PROMISED TO TAKE UP THE MATTER WITH MINCULT AND GIVE A
DEFINITIVE ANSWER ON SEPTEMBER TWELVE.

4. COMMENT: GOSKONTSERT OFFICIALS WERE JOVIAL DURING ROY
CLARK TAPE AND THERE IS NO PROBLEM WITH CLARK.
HOWEVER DURING AMERICA TAPE THEY WERE MUCH MORE NERVOUS.
THIS SEEMED RELATED TO THEIR COMMENTS THAT AMERICA IS
ACCEPTABLE FROM GOSKONTSERT'S STANDPOINT AND THAT THEY
NOW PERCEIVE THE THREAT OF HAVING THEIR POSITIVE DECISION
REVERSED AT A HIGHER LEVEL. POST WILL FOLLOW UP AND REPORT
SOONEST.
STOESSEL

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